

opinions

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action or statement or policy or whatever. Say so. Engage in constructive dialogue. Discussion of subjects such as these should never be emasculated — something which the *Gazette*, according to Mr. MacLeod, has quite remarkably done while at the same time publishing two of his contributions.

He should recognise that to "begin to look at all people based on their merit" is a fine ideal which few live up to, and that the victims of this failure have, at the very least, a right to recourse. That is what the Discriminatory Harassment Policy, with its admitted imperfections, is for.

This is not the viewpoint of a *Gazette* plot to stifle Mr. MacLeod's precious freedom of expression with a gag and duct tape. Nor does it represent a political correctness conspiracy to line all the Tory Youth guys up against a wall. It is one person's freely expressed opinion, subject always to modification through open discussion with the Anthony Roberts' and, yes, even the Rod MacLeods of this world.

Ryan Stanley

Relishing rose-coloured spectacles

I have complacently sat back and read the myriad of articles and opinions that have been recycled through the factory of blaming, shaming, despising, chastising and other useless energies.

What I see is a lot of negativity out there and the bad effects it creates. Why is it that the easiest things for the human mind to do are often the most self-defeating? I see society as too often accusing, self-righteous, smug and "politically correct". This is leading to a greater disparity and a rift between to self-defined "groups".

As a light person and a woman, I am trapped on two sides of the fence. One group sees me as unjustly superior while others would see me as historically and unjustly inferior. I do not like labels. They are shackles that I wish to discard. I realize that being "for" positive things is a lot more effective than being "against" negative things. Keep your focus positive and that is what will expand for you in your life. Respond posi-

tively with love and understanding and that is what will come back to you. All too often this is not what we see in the world. We more often see people venting their frustrations in an "I'm right, you're wrong" fashion.

I now glaze over most of these articles which throw out their anger at me or people I know, by virtue of our assigned grouping. While I understand that it is the first stage in realizing change to take place. We must see that the changes need to be made inside of us first.

People, we are here together, therefore we must come together, not apart. Fighting against all these "isms" only creates schisms. It is an oxymoron and just as the profound bathroom wall says it is like "fucking for virginity". Yet it is still what we hear in so many sectors.

I wish that people could transcend their pettiness and truly learn to care. It may sound odd but love is the only way to great harmony and positive energy. When you hear people talk-

ing of afterlife experiences they always say that they saw as most important was their relationships with people and when given a second chance at life they chose to focus on and improve their connections to other mortals. But let's not wait till death to find this out. Let's do it now!

I have found that by expending a small amount of positive energy towards others such as smiling, or doing small favours, I have made a great return on my investment, such as strangers going out of their way to do nice things for me. Thank you for those little things, they meant a lot. It is worth it. You feel great and all of this positive energy flows back to you, when you truly give without concern of receiving. I am not religious, just one individual trying to make a difference on this planet that we share. If we all put out more positive energy rather than negative we will all reap the benefits.

Groupings are reference points but not judging points. There are many

grey areas. My life has been no better or worse by virtue of my traits. You can measure things in many different ways and find out that everyone comes out balanced with life's challenges. Those who wish to hold grudges or lash accusations are only putting obstacles in their path to true self-fulfilment and deep down they know it. We are all responsible for ourselves. We control our thoughts and thoughts control everything. How we presents ourselves, the feelings we send out to others, make all the difference. So why don't we act Positive and look for the Positive? Let's empower ourselves with Positivity; we all will gain. We are all right and we are all wrong. It doesn't matter. So smile at those people beside you and realize that they are just like you. Try it. What have you got to lose?

J. Carlisle

Horrorified

To the editors:

How can people think that our society is truly coming to terms with such issues as racism and prejudice? Just because we hear about it more and more (in passing), can we really say that we are closer to being capable of fully grasping the essence of these issues?

On Monday, I noticed on a very prominent bulletin board in the LSC a poster promoting an event of the Cultural Diversity Festival. The event, organized by the Atlantic Provinces Jewish Students Federation, is featuring Dr. Leon Bass, "a renowned Black Educator on Racism and the Holocaust... a WWII veteran who helped liberate the notorious death camp of Buchenwald".

I couldn't help but notice some statements that were scribbled on these posters: "Soaps for sale! Your soaps smell nice!" I was puzzled at first, until speaking with a friend who pointed out what they were referring to.

During the Holocaust, the Nazis used the fat of their victims to make soap.

I was horrified. How do such blatantly hateful sentiments exist today? Is this a reflection of our society's tendency to superficially deal with racism and prejudice at one level, and ignore what is really going on?

Lilli Ju



Philippines Environment and Resource Management Project (ERMP) School for Resource & Environmental Studies

3 internships are available to Dalhousie University graduate students for work in the Philippines between May-August 1993. These are considered career oriented, as opportunities to gain experience in a developing country or an environmental project. The three positions available in the Philippines are:

Resource Conflicts: A Mining Study - Cordillera
Solving the Garbage Dilemma - Los Banos
Gender & Community Coastal Management Research - Bais Bay, Negros Oriental

For a detailed description and information on how to apply, please see the bulletin boards in the SUB, Grad House, Dal Student Employment Centre, or your academic department, or call Jennifer Leith at 494-2499.

DEADLINE FOR APPLICATIONS IS MARCH 31, 1993

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